GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1933
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2004
FEE IN MEDICAL COLLEGES
Singh Shri Mohan

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of medical colleges under the Union Government, various State Governments and private sector where MBBS and Post-Graduation courses are being taught;

(b) the number of students admitted per year in these medical colleges and the criteria of their admission;

(c) whether the standard of education of all these medical colleges is approved by the Medical Council of India and all the medical colleges fulfil these norms;

(d) the pattern of annual fee in these medical colleges alongwith the norms therefor;

(e) whether students coming from poor and low-income group can afford to pay the said fee; and

(f) if not, the measures proposed to be taken by the Government for the meritorious students of the poor and low-income group?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a): At present there are 224 medical colleges functioning in the country out of which 7 are run by the Union Government/Central Universities, 116 are run by the State Government/Universities established by the State Governments and 101 are run by private Trusts/Societies. There are 148 medical colleges including Post-Graduate institutes under the Government which are running Post-Graduate courses.

(b): Approximately 25,000 Under-graduate and 8000 Post-graduate seats are available in these medical colleges per year. The students seeing admissions to these courses must fulfill the minimum eligibility criteria prescribed in the Regulations notified by the Medical Council of India with the approval of Central Government.

(c): All the medical colleges are required to maintain the minimum standard of educations and the syllabus prescribed in the Regulations of Medical Council of India. The Council undertakes periodical inspections of the colleges for verification of the same.

(d) to (f): In a judgment dated 14.8.2003 in the case of Islamic Academy of Education, the Hon`ble Supreme Court has clarified that each institution shall have the freedom to fix its own fee structure. However, no institution shall charge capitation fee or indulge in profiteering. Further, the Hon`ble Court has directed that each State Government shall set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of a retired High Court Judge to decide whether the fee proposed by the institute is justified and does not amount to profiteering or charging of capitation fee. The said Committee may approve the fee structure proposed by the institute or may propose some other fee which shall be binding on the institute for a period of three years.